

# FASCINATING FACTS

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**WHO WAS CHEVALIER DE SAINT-GEORGE, CHAMPION FENCER, AND EARLIEST EUROPEAN MUSICIAN/COMPOSER WHO RECEIVED WIDESPREAD CRITICAL ACCLAIM?**

Fascinating Facts is a free subscription monthly private circulation e- magazine of personal , historic and military interest.

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Welcome to this issue of Fascinating Facts. Now retired, with a background of journalism, literature production, international public relations, and ex editor of a leading industry publications, I now have the time to combine my abilities and share my interests in historic facts, especially in connection with military matters. While I have written most of the articles in the Scarletman I am happy to accept ideas and contributions from readers; giving them credit for their work. The Scarletman is free issue e-magazine therefore if you would like to circulate copies further then I am happy for you to create a wider readership of those with a similar interest to mine.

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**IN SUPPORT OF UKRAINE**

### **FUN FACTS ABOUT OCTOBER**

1. In the original 10-month calendar, October was month 8. hence the name, octo, Latin for 8. It's so weird when it's the tenth month?
2. October in other languages Most other languages have followed suit and also have named October after the number 8. In German and Danish, it's Oktober. In French, Octobre. In Italian, Ottobre. In Spanish, Octubre. In Swahili, Oktoba. In Albanian, October is known as Tetor as in Albanian for 8 is Tetë.
3. October in the past. The anglo-saxons called October, Wintirfyllith. This name refers to October having the first full moon of the winter season. In early Germanic, October was known as Weinmond, meaning wine month. Does this link with the Oktoberfest?
4. Two Zodiac signs represent the month of October. If you were born between October 1st and 22nd, you're a Libra; known to be calm and balanced with impeccable taste. But between October 23rd and 31st its Scorpio who are passionate and magnetic with a strong will.
5. Diwali, also known as the festival of lights, one of the most celebrated days in Hindu culture it symbolises the victory of light over darkness and good over evil.
6. A month of bounty known as the best harvesting month for many crops including apples, carrots, corn, grapes, onions, potatoes, squash and pumpkins.
7. The changing leaf colour one of the most spectacular events of October often a draw for tourism. In the United States, people travel to the northeast where large swathes of maples, birches and poplars turn from green to dazzling reds, yellows and oranges.
8. The opal is the birthstone of October, the only birthstone that isn't crystallised and can take on many shapes and colours. It was also a favourite of Cleopatra.
9. The October birth flower is the calendula or marigold representing bright fall, sunset and the changing leaves. They represent comfort, healing and protection. Perfect for October.

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# NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM



Since 1948 Armed Forces personnel have taken part in more than 50 world wide operations, often as part of NATO or other coalitions. The Armed Forces Memorial remembers those who have lost their lives in conflicts around the world and is particularly important for many, whose relatives have no grave to visit, or to remember those who are buried in far off places.

## SHAFT OF SUNLIGHT

The central focus of the Armed Forces Arboretum is a memorial created by architect Liam O'Connor to remember those who gave their lives in the service of their country since the end of the Second World War. The memorial was inspired by prehistoric Britain and ancient Rome. It sits on 100 m by 50 m high earth mound and is topped by a 43 metre diameter stone structure

With two curved walls and two straight walls, with the central focus being two bronze sculptures created by Ian Rank Broadley.

A space has been created between the two southern walls of the Memorial so that on Armistice Day a shaft of sunlight falls through this gap onto the bronze wreath in the centre of the Memorial. There are over 400 plots dedicated to individuals and organisations including the military,

civilian victims of war, the Police, Fire Brigade and Ambulance services, charitable local and overseas organisations.

Buildings at the National Memorial Arboretum include the Millennium Chapel of Peace and Forgiveness, the Remembrance Centre, the FEPOW Memorial Building and the Armed Forces Memorial.

Portland stone panels contain the names of those individuals who are honoured on the Memorial. In the centre of the stone structure there is a bronze wreath and two bronze sculptures. Officially opened by HRH The Duchess of Kent in 2001, it was dedicated in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen in 2007.

## 16,000 NAMES

Over 16,000 names are recorded on the memorial including those who have been killed whilst on duty, died in operational theatre or were targeted by terrorists. The names on the panels are recorded first by year, then by service – Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force, then in date order. Colleagues who died in the same incident are remembered together. Over 15,000 names were carved by computer when the memorial was created. There is space on the empty panels for a

further 15,000 names. Since 2007, the names have been engraved by hand on a yearly basis.

Developed from reclaimed gravel workings it was gifted by Redland Aggregates, now Tarmac. Costing £6 million the memorial was principally funded by sales of a commemorative Trafalgar coin sold by the Royal Mint, and a 40 per cent grant from the National Lottery Millennium Commission. The bronze sculptures are the work of Ian Rank-Broadley who received the 2008 Marsh Award for Excellence in Public Sculpture.

## BRONZE SCULPTURES

The Stretcher Bearers sculpture shows a wounded serviceman borne by comrades, watched by grieving family representing the cost of armed conflict on those left behind. The other sculpture is a figure pointing through the Great Gates of Eternity to Paradise. This sculpture is aligned so that at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, the sun's rays stream through the gap to illuminate the centre of the Memorial.

An evolving, maturing woodland landscape, featuring 25,000 trees the 150 acre Arboretum has over 400 dedicated memorials and although part of the Royal British Legion, it operates with a separate Board of Trustees and is an independent charity. With over 300,000 visitors to site each year, over 20,000 are young people for formal and informal learning visits.

## LEST WE FORGET

The idea of Commander David Childs CBE who, was inspired by a visit to Arlington Cemetery and the National Arboretum in Washington, he believed a year-round national centre of Remembrance was needed.

The figure on the left pointing through the Great Gates of Eternity to Paradise.



The sculpture group represents the body of a fallen serviceman taken into the arms of his comrades.



Oosoom at English Wikipedia, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons

# BIG BENS LITTLE BROTHER

Big Ben, is possibly the best known clock in the world. But what about little Ben? Nine meter tall Little Ben stands outside Victoria Station, decorated in black, red, and gold looking almost impressive as its big brother. But why does the capital have a Big Ben and Little Ben? Built by Gillett and Johnston it was unveiled on the 14th March 1892.

## REPLICA OF BIG BEN

Intended to be a complete replica of Big Ben, it is not actually a full copy as originally intended it was painted in three different shades of green but is now red, black and gold. When designed Gillett & Johnston were so sure the design for the clock was going to be a huge hit, they registered it as a pattern. They then expected an influx of sales and for lots of Little Bens around the world. Problem was only a few were sold – the most famous being located in the Seychelles! Called Lorloz it was painted silver. It was installed in 1903 in the centre of Victoria (Seychelles' capital) to celebrate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee six years earlier.

## LOO VENTILATION SHAFT

There are several reasons why little Benn was built. When the clock tower was first erected in 1892, it was slightly to the south of the current location on a small traffic island next to underground toilets and hid the ventilation shaft of a nearby public loo. Another is it was helpful to those running for their trains.

The clock is adorned with a couplet



from the poem, Apology for Summer Time and signed "J.W.R.":

**My hands you may retard  
or may advance  
My heart beats true for  
England as for France.**

This little rhyme is reference to the fact the clock be permanently on Daylight Saving Time leading to the time being correct for France during the winter months and correct for the UK during the summer. But now both Big Ben and Little Ben show the correct time all year round.



Ethan Doyle White, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Common

Unusually the clock mechanism is not at the top behind the clock faces. In fact, it's in the bottom of the tower, and a rod runs up the column to the clock faces to turn the hands. Originally there was a thick glass panel in the side of the tower to show the clock mechanism. It has been removed and it is likely to have been replaced by the metal plate inscription about recent restoration.

An interesting initial development for the time of its design was a gas lantern to light the clock faces. This was lit and extinguished automatically by the clock's mechanics, saving the municipal gas lighter an additional daily job.

## POPULAR MEETING POINT

It hasn't all been plain sailing for this quirky clock, though. Despite Little Ben being first unveiled 1892. In July 1962 the roads were widened with a new pedestrian waiting area in the middle of the road, and the clock tower was taken down. It was reported at the time that the tower was removed to the council depot at Gatliff Road.

It remained in storage until it was found and given a £35,000 restoration by Westminster City Council with sponsorship from Elf Aquitaine "as a gesture of Franco-British friendship" who paid for the restoration. Being unveiled again on 6th December 1981 The involvement of the French company was due to the Clock Tower being a popular meeting point for French people in London catching the boat-train from Victoria to Calais in Victorian times.

It was removed again in 2012, when it was placed in storage while Victoria Station was upgraded. Renovated again Little Ben clock was eventually put back in its present place in 2016.

## OLD FATHER TIME

While regularly called Little Ben, there is no written record of that name being used until its restoration in 1981. Until then in records it was always called the Clock Tower until it was removed in 1964. Whether it was nicknamed Little Ben before its removal in the 1960's is unclear, but if not, then someone in Westminster Council's marketing dept probably came up with the nickname in 1981, and it's stuck ever since.

Apart from the panel with the explanatory text, the decoration is a rich selection of black roses, and gilding with one of the motifs being is a small representation of Father Time.

# PATRON SAINT OF WALES ST DAVID

David, the patron saint of Wales, born in Henfynyw (Vetus-Menevia) in Ceredigion, was a Welsh bishop of St David's during the 6th century. Even though tradition has preserved a large amount of detail about his life, the date of his birth is uncertain and could range from 462 to 512. Traditionally he is believed to be the son of Non and the grandson of Ceredig ap Cunedda, the king of Ceredigion. While initially Welsh annals place his death 569 years after Christ's Phillimore's revised this to 601.

## REFUSED ROMAN RITE

Many of the traditional tales about David are recorded in the *Buchedd Dewi* or "Life of David" written by Rhygyfarch in the late 11th century who claimed it was based on documents found in the cathedral archives. But modern historians are sceptical of some of its claims. One of which was his to establish independence for the Welsh church, which had refused the Roman rite until the 8th century but now sought a metropolitan status equal to that of Canterbury.

David became renowned as a teacher and preacher, founding monastic settlements and churches in Wales, South West England, and Brittany. St David's Cathedral stands on the site of the monastery he founded in the Glyn Rhosyn valley of Pembrokeshire.

## ELECTED AS PRIMATE

Around 550, David attended the Synod of Brefi, where his eloquence in opposing Pelagianism (the denial of the doctrine of original sin), caused his fellow monks to elect him primate of the region. As such he presided over the synod of Caerleon (the "Synod of Victory") around 569.

His best-known miracle is said to have taken place when he was preaching in the middle of a large crowd at the Synod of Brefi in the village of Llanddewi Brefi. The ground on which he stood is reputed to have risen up to form a small hill and a white dove, which became his emblem, settled on his shoulder.

St David's metropolitan status as an archbishopric was later supported by Bernard, Bishop of St David's, Geoffrey of Monmouth, and



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Gerald of Wales. The Monastic Rule of David stated that monks had to pull the plough, drink only water and eat only bread with salt and herbs and refrain from eating meat and drinking beer. They spent their evenings in prayer, reading and writing. No personal possessions were allowed.

## GLASTONBURY

Glastonbury Abbey was one of the churches David founded. About forty years later William of Malmesbury, believed the Abbey older, said that David only visited Glastonbury to rededicate the Abbey and to donate a travelling altar including a great sapphire. He had had a vision of Jesus who said that "the church had been dedicated long ago by Himself in honour of His Mother, and it was not seemly that it should be re-dedicated by human hands". So David instead commissioned an extension to be built to the Abbey, east of the Old Church. This is born out by a manuscript which indicates that a sapphire altar was confiscated by Henry VIII during the Dissolution of the Monasteries.

## FILLED WITH ANGELS

Though the exact date of David's death is not certain, it is accepted that it was on 1 March; the date now marked as Saint David's Day. The monastery is said to have been "filled with angels as Christ received his soul". His last words to his followers were in a sermon

on the previous Sunday. "Lords, brothers and sisters, Be joyful, and keep your faith and your creed, and do the little things that you have seen me do and heard about. And as for me, I will walk the path that our fathers have trod before us." "Do ye the little things in life" ("Gwnewch y pethau bychain mewn bywyd") is today a very well known phrase in Welsh.

## POPULAR FOR PILGRIMAGE

David was buried at St David's Cathedral at St Davids, Pembrokeshire, where his shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages. During the 10th and 11th centuries the Cathedral was regularly raided by Vikings, who removed the shrine from the church and stripped off the precious metal adornments. In 1275 a new shrine was constructed, the ruined base of which remains to this day, which was originally surmounted by an ornamental wooden canopy. The relics of David and Justinian of Ramsey Island were kept in a portable casket on the shrine's stone base. Edward I came there to pray in 1284. During the reformation Bishop Barlow (1536–48), a staunch Protestant, stripped the shrine of its jewels and confiscated the relics of David and Justinian.

David was officially recognised at the Holy See by Pope Callixtus II in 1120, thanks to the work of Bernard, Bishop of St David's. David was also canonised by the Eastern Orthodox Church. Over 50 churches in South Wales were dedicated to him in pre-Reformation days.

## EASTERN FATHERS

The 2004 edition of the Roman Martyrology, lists David under 1st March with the Latin name *Dávus*. He is recognised as bishop of Menevia in Wales who governed his monastery following the example of the Eastern Fathers. Through his leadership, many monks evangelised Wales, Ireland, Cornwall and Armorica; Brittany and surrounding provinces.

The restored Shrine of Saint David was rededicated by the Right Reverend Wyn Evans, Bis-hop of St David's, on Saint David's Day, 2012.

A 1630 broadside ballad claimed that Welsh wore a leek in their hats to commemorate a battle fought on St David's Day. To recognise friend from foe, the Welsh pulled up garden leeks and put them in their hats, foregoing on to win the battle.

# THE DIVERSE TALENTS OF CHEVALIER DE SAINT-GEORGE

Born 1745 Joseph Bologne, was the illegitimate son of Guadeloupe settler and planter Georges Bologne de Saint-Georges and his wife's beautiful 18 year old enslaved Senegalese personal maid Nanon. Such was his affection for the boy – and possibly his mother that George allowed Joseph to use the family name – which acknowledged his paternity – but he also paid large sums of money for the boy's education.

It is likely that Joseph gave signs of his precocious violin playing gifts at an early age. Knowing that, in the colonies, this remarkable boy would be condemned to a life of humiliation and casual brutality his father took him to France where he would have greater opportunities, suffer less overt prejudice and his talents would be developed and recognised

## CHILDHOOD PRODIGY

So when Joseph was seven, his father enlisted him in a French Jesuit boarding school for his education. Early records assert that Joseph's facility for learning astounded those who were engaged to teach him. Then when he was 13 he was enrolled in a private fencing academy and practised horse riding at the famous Salle du Manège where he was considered the best pupil. At 17 his fencing progress was so rapid, that he beat Alexandre Picard, France's best swordsmen, with the greatest speed and skill imaginable. The heavily bet on match divided public opinion into partisans and opponents of slavery.



Erwmat, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons

Five feet six inches, tall and well built he was endowed with great physical strength. He was quick, supple and slim and had astonishing agility. No one else under instruction showed as much gracefulness and discipline. His fencing stance was superb and with his hand held high, he could always exploit the faults of his opponent.

When he graduated in 1766, he was made an Officer of the King's bodyguard and a chevalier, both orders of knighthood. From then on, he was known as the 'Chevalier de Saint-Georges'.

## VIOLINIST EXTRAORDINAIRE

His other great claim to fame was music, especially playing the violin. He first studied violin with Platon, his father's estate manager, and later, at 7 when he moved to France, he was taught by the famous violinists, Leclair and Lolli. He also had a professional relationship with the composer Gossec. His musical career began when he was only 24 when he joined the Concert des Amateurs, assembled under the direction of Gossec, as first violin. When Gossec left in 1781, he founded the Concert de la Loge Olympique, for whom Count d'Ogny commissioned Haydn to compose his set of six 'Paris' symphonies. As he goes between he travelled to Austria to meet the Haydn and rehearsed the six symphonies and directed their triumphant premieres at the end of 1787.

## ZENITH OF HIS FAME

In the years preceding the revolution, Saint-Georges was at the zenith of his fame as a composer and performer. His musical output was steady but he was not a prolific composer by the century's usual standards. Doubtless, his other activities prevented him from devoting his time to composition as he was active as a swordsman making several trips to London to fight exhibition fencing matches. In 1787, he met with progressive political elements while in England, particularly regarding slavery abolitionists.

Within six months of the outbreak of the French revolution, his Loge Olympique orchestra was dissolved and he returned to England in the company of the Duke of Orleans, Philippe-Egalité. He supported himself with exhibition



Mather Brown, Public domain, via Wikimedia Common

fencing matches in London and Brighton, before the Prince of Wales returning to Paris in 1790.

The last decade of his life was dominated by the revolution. Having been born of a slave mother he was well aware that every advantage he had enjoyed had been due solely to the kindness and goodwill of his father. Also his situation, and being of mixed race, meant he had greater legal rights than a slave. Nevertheless he would forever be denied the privileges of a white man. Even marriage was forbidden him in pre-revolutionary France.

## ARMY COLONEL

When the revolution proclaimed the equality of all men on 26 August 1789 he embraced its cause and was one of the first to sign up. As a brilliant horseman and man of arms he must have been a very welcome recruit. As a Colonel in the army he formed the first 'coloured soldiers' regiment and worked hard to forge them into a well-trained fighting unit. Nevertheless he still found time for his musical activities.

Saint-Georges' musical post was as director of a new musical organisation, the Cercle de l'Harmonie. But he soon became aware that he was suffering from a disease of the bladder and died on 12 June 1799.

At his death, there was no record of any family being present; no parents or his father's legitimate daughter. The man once so sought after, ended with only 2 friends at his funeral! There were certainly greater composers during the late 18th century but none who could come close to him on playing the violin or possessed anywhere near his remarkable fencing, horse riding and music talents or matched his persona.

# THE HISTORY OF BEING SAUCY

## HP BROWN SAUCE

Nottingham grocer Frederick Gibson Garton was given a recipe for a brown sauce by one of his suppliers which had been obtained in India. Using as a base for the brown sauce in his pickles and sauces he included a range of other ingredients and registered the name H.P. Sauce in 1895, because he had heard a rumour that a restaurant in the Houses of Parliament had begun serving it.

### A TAKEOVER

In 1899 he was unable to settle a debt with his vinegar suppliers, and Edwin Moore of the Midland Vinegar Company visited his Nottingham premises to settle the matter. This resulted in Garton handing over the name and recipe for HP Sauce - for £150.00 (£15,841 in 2023) While Garton's name remained on the HP sauce bottles for many years was The Midland Vinegar Company who profited from the huge sales that were generated.

### HIGHLY VALUABLE

Today HP and Daddies are the two most popular brown sauces and can trace their origins to a tiny premises in Nottinghamshire. HP brand passed from the Midlands Vinegar Company to Smedley HP Foods Ltd, which was subsequently acquired by a division of Imperial Tobacco. It was then sold to the French Groupe Danone SA in 1988 for £199 million. (£1,898,702,019.01 in 2023) In June 2005, Heinz purchased the parent company, HP Foods for £440 million (£739, million).

### PRODUCTION SWITCHED

In May 2006, Heinz announced plans to switch production to the Netherlands. This prompted a call to boycott Heinz and resulted in the loss of 125 jobs. This was criticised by politicians as the company still wanted to use the image of the House of Commons on its bottles. Local Labour MP Khalid Mahmood brand a bottle of HP Sauce in Parliament as part of a protest against the move. In 2007 the Aston factory at Aston ceased production a week later a "wake" was held at the location of the factory and it was demolished in the summer. Annual sales are 28 million bottles.

## TOMATO SAUCE

In 1876, with two of his relatives Henry Heinz launched F & J Heinz Company, with Henry as manager. In the US, they launched Heinz Tomato Ketchup followed by a launch in the UK in 1886 selling it in Fortnum & Mason food store.

Riding the New York railway Henry saw a poster advertising 21 styles of shoe. So he totted up the number of products his company produced, and settled on 7. On that journey Heinz 57 Varieties was born.

During the war, ingredients were in short supply therefore Heinz Tomato Ketchup did not appear on UK shelves from 1939 until 1948.

### REGIONAL TASTES

Globally, Heinz manufactures ketchup in factories across the world to a basic recipe with variations tailored to regional tastes. In 2021 Heinz announced that tomato ketchup would be made in the UK for the first time in more than 20 years spending £140m on its food plant near Wigan.

Now Heinz ketchup is packaged in glass and plastic bottles. They introduced their octagonal glass bottle for the first time in 1889 and it was patented in 1890. Still in use it is considered to be an iconic example of package design.

### UPSIDE DOWN BOTTLE

The upside-down, squeezable bottle makes dispensing ketchup easier than from the glass bottle. It also generates less sauce waste as the ketchup settles down to the dispensing valve. The company have produced many mixtures of Tomato sauces with additions such as mayonnaise, mustard, barbeque sauce and honey. Heinz developed its own hybrid tomato seeds through traditional breeding techniques, ensuring superior quality taste and nutrition

### BOTTLE SWEET SPOT

Producing over 175,000 tonnes of ketchup a year in 650 million bottles sold in more than 140 countries, with annual sales of more than \$1.5 billion. To release ketchup faster from the glass bottle, apply a firm tap to the sweet spot on the neck of the bottle by the "57."

## WORCESTER SAUCE

Lea and Perrins launched Worcester sauce in 1837, when local chemists John Wheeley Lea and William Henry Perrins made condiment at the request of Lord Marcus Sandys, ex-Governor of Bengal, who gave the two chemists a list of ingredients and asked them to recreate it After tasting it they found it completely unpalatable and discarded it to the cellar of their chemist shop, only to find, 18 months later, that it had matured into a delicious sauce.

### WORLDWIDE FAME

So delicious in fact that they decided to put it on sale. they never looked back - by the end of the following decade Lea and Perrins Worcestershire Sauce had gained worldwide fame and was exported to throughout the British Empire.

By the end of the century Lea and Perrins' iconic orange label, which has hardly changed, had been added to bottles to ensure they stood out from competitors.

### FACTORY FIRE

In 1897 the company opened a new factory in Worcester, where it still remains in operation, despite being commandeered by the British Army during WWII and suffering a factory fire in 1964. In 1904 Lea & Perrins was granted the Royal Warrant which it holds to this day

Today, Lea & Perrins' sauce is exported to over 130 countries around the world, where it has become a much used in kitchens, restaurants, hotels and bars.

### FERMENTED ANCHOVIES

Like the ancient Roman tradition of fermented fish sauce called garum it takes 18 months for the fermentation process of Lee and Perrins Worcestershire sauce. Still based in Worcester the company is part of the UK based subsidiary of Kraft Heinz. Its ingredients include barley malt vinegar, spirit vinegar, molasses, sugar, salt, anchovies, tamarind extract, onions, garlic, spices, flavourings. The anchovies age in salt for two years to bring out the base flavour of the sauce The company produces approx. 43 million bottles a year,

# GUARANTEED 2000 YEARS OF DATA STORAGE

Deep in a mountain in the arctic Svalbard archipelago, some of the most important items of the world's digital memory are preserved in a former coal mine outside Longyearbyen, in conditions optimal for long term data storage.

The Svalbard archipelago, situated north of mainland Norway, about 970 kilometres from the North Pole, is declared demilitarised zone by 42 nations, established in the Svalbard Treaty signed after World War I which means that the territory cannot be used for military purposes making it one of the most geopolitically secure places in the world.

## LARGE STEEL VAULT

The facility, inaugurated in March 2017, is a large steel vault located between 150 metres and 300 metres below the ground or permafrost, inside an abandoned coal mine that was driven over 300 metres into the side of a mountain. The entrance to the facility is secured with a concrete wall and a steel gate with the deposits stored in secure shipping containers.

Due to the island's Arctic climate and resulting permafrost, even if the power to the facility failed, the temperature inside the vault, 250 metres below the permafrost means that it is situated deep enough to also avoid damage from nuclear weapons.

## DATA STORED OFF-LINE

Data is stored offline on film reels utilising a refined version of dark-room photography technology utilising film created from polyester coated in silver halide crystals and powder-coated with iron oxide. This film has a life span of at least 500 and possibly up to 2,000 years, if stored in optimum conditions. The company tested it against electromagnetic pulses, extreme nuclear radiation, and -196°C (-321°F) — and they were preserved.

The level of security of the data represents the "cold layer" of archiving to prevent the information being wiped repeating the 19th-century Carrington geomagnetic storm.

Realising people in the far future may not understand what they see in the vault, a form of "Rosetta Stone" has

**The Arctic World Archive (AWA) is a unhackable, secure data and file storage vault located deep inside an Arctic Mountain on the isolated archipelago, Svalbard. Here is secured the world's digital data, memory, history, treasures to ensure that it is made available and accessible to future generations without data loss.**

been devised to help them decode the data, in the form of a guide to interpreting the archive. The guides, all readable after magnification, are written in English, Arabic, Spanish, Chinese and Hindi. Participating companies, who pay for the storage of data, can send their data digitally or physically.

## NOT INTERNET CONNECTED

While it can be retrieved at any time from the vault, it is not a fast process as the data is not connected to the internet. This means the relevant reel of film has to be manually retrieved and uploaded via a fibre optic connection to Piql's headquarters in Drammen. This can take from 1 to 24 hours.

The archive stores a wide range of historical and cultural data from 17 governments, researchers, religious institutions, media companies. Some store some of their most significant records in the vault while Brazil and Norway have archived their constitutions and other important historical papers.

## SIGNIFICANT WORKS

The archive includes information about biodiversity and examples of culturally significant works which assist in understanding topics such as bushfires and climate change.

It also includes a digitised versions of paintings Italian literature.

In July 2020, the 21TB February

site archive was stored at the AWA. The amount of code stored has been described thus: "If someone who types at about 60 words a minute sat down and tried to fill up all that space, it would take 111,300 years". The first reel holds the code of both the Linux and Android operating systems, plus that of 6,000 other major open source applications. In our digitized world.

Due to the global Covid pandemic, many participants had new sense of purpose to protect their cultural heritage and valuable information for future generations.

The Arctic vault holds a picture of our society; mistakes we've made and the feats we've accomplished. It is representative of the progress and capability of mankind.

## UNIQUE STORAGE

The Arctic World Archive, with thousands of consumer and institutional subscribers worldwide. is operated by the Norwegian company Piql, which has also developed the unique storage method which is currently the safest and most durable data carrier in the world. It does not require energy and is designed to guarantee future accessibility, as well as keeping the data safe from cyber attacks. Other institutions that store its data in the AWA include the Vatican Library, Sweden's Moderna Museet, and the open source software platform Github.



National Museum/Vidar Ibenfeldt

World Geography public domain



World Geography public domain



*Fancy an afternoon stroll??*

On Gaztligatxe an island on Spain's Basque coast is this stone bridge and steps that connect its hermitage to the mainland. Built in the 11th century, possibly by the Knights Templar, the span was simply a sturdy lifeline for the hermitage at the top of the sea crag. The ancient bridge and the hundreds of steps are still a popular tourist attraction accessed by a well maintained and well-groomed modern path. Below.



World Geography public domain

Cliff paths are built along the faces of cliffs and surrounded by vegetation growing from the rocks. Walking through these trails, visitors can appreciate broad vistas of natural landscape.

Huangshan, left and above is a mountain range in southern Anhui province in eastern China. Vegetation on the range is thickest below 1,100 metres (3,600 ft), with trees growing up to the treeline at 1,800 metres (5,900 ft).

Garbhan Power, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Common



# THE STENT - THE REVOLUTION IN TREATMENT OF HEART DISEASE

The thought when I was a child of a heart attack was frightening and virtually a death sentence. Then along came surgery to be recently followed by angioplasty. In the 40 years since the insertion of a stent, the procedure has revolutionised treatment of heart disease and saved millions of lives around the world. Mine being one of those. While heart disease remains the leading cause of death it is not the death sentence it was 40 years ago when one in four people died from a heart attack.

## FIRST MATERIAL

But the story starts in 1847, when dentist Edwin Truman introduced gutta-percha for making dental impressions. In 1856, Stent added several other materials to the gutta-percha, which markedly improved the plasticity and stability of the material. The medical device called the stent considered to have been due to this. His work led to his appointment as Dentist to the Royal Household.

## RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

Transition from dental impression compound into a surgical tool is attributable to Johannes Fredericus Esser, a Dutch plastic surgeon who pioneered innovative methods of reconstructive surgery on soldiers with face wounds during the First World War by sterilising the Stent's dental mass to stabilise the skin grafts. As Special Surgeon for Plastic

Operations in Vienna he described his experience with these wounds and how he used the mould of dental mass (Stent's) in fixation of skin grafts in oral surgical repair of war wounds.

The application of the word stent was not immediate. Numerous inert tubes devices and tissues to bridge a gap or restore bile duct continuity were tested. The first reference to a polyethylene tube "as a stent for the anastomosis" was in dogs in 1954.

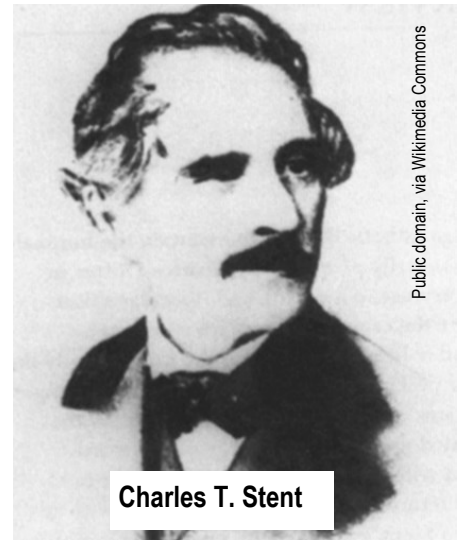
## DEFINITION OF A STENT

In urology, stenting first appeared in 1972, when Goodwin said Urologists talk about putting a tube in a ureter or urethra. This is not a splint. It may be a stent. Perhaps the process is most properly described as leaving a tube or stent in an organ. As described by Goodwin a splint is put outside a structure to stabilise it but a stent is a mould made from a compound to hold a form of graft in place. When referring to an intraluminal device to maintain patency until healing has taken place, the word 'stent' is most appropriate.

## FIRST CORONARY STENT

The first coronary stent was implanted into a patient by Jacques Puel in Toulouse, on March 28, 1986. Ulrich Sigwart has been credited with the concept and realisation of endoluminal stenting, a procedure that has revolutionised coronary and peripheral arterial revascularization. He played a pivotal role in the concept and application of coronary stenting.

Now interventional cardiologists implant stents every day in numerous other medical disciplines such as plastic surgery, gastroenter-



Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Charles T. Stent

ology, urology, and oral and maxillofacial surgery.

In the United States, several groups were developing and testing these devices in the coronaries.

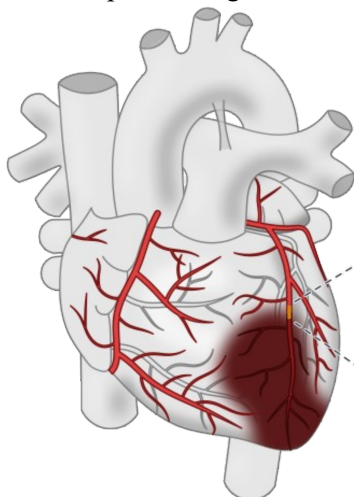
## STENT PATENT

Julio Palmaz, an interventional vascular radiologist, invented the balloon-expandable stent, as below, for which he received a patent in 1985. He implanted his first peripheral stent in a patient at Freiburg University in Germany in October 1987. At the same time, Gary Roubin and Spencer B. King III, used a device pioneered by Cesare Gianturco, Within 4 years the balloon-expandable stent was used in over 80 per cent of percutaneous coronary interventions, an unparalleled success.

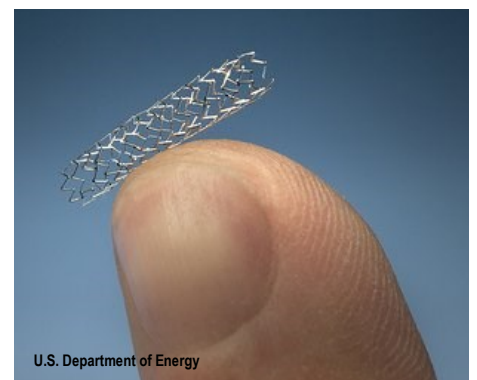
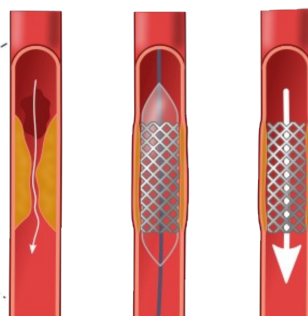
## 34, MOST STENTS IN BODY

In summary, all the evidence has it that Charles T. Stent gave his name to our coronary endovascular prosthesis (the stent), and Charles T. Dotter was the first to use the name in a publication. Very rarely, however, does a name, standing alone, become part of the living language.

Emil Lohen (USA) has, over a 6 year period, had a total of 34 coronary stents implanted. The most at any one time was seven in 1995



Left. The partially blocked artery. Centre The stent on a balloon being inserted. Right The stent in place with a clear artery.



U.S. Department of Energy

## HERE YESTERDAY STILL USED TODAY GONE TOMORROW?



own work, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

### PHONE BOX

The first public telephone kiosk in the UK was in concrete in 1921. Redesigned in 1925 there were 1,000 but by the mid-1990s, there were 100,000. which has now reduced to 20,000 working boxes left from which 5 million calls are still made. Over 7,000 have been sold at £1 each. There are 111.8 million mobile subscriptions in the UK, 87 million active mobile devices. 98% of the adult population have a mobile phone, making 1.37 active connections per head of population.

### CALCULATORS



Joe Haupt from USA, CC BY-SA 2.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/>

Introduced in 1972 the HP-35 Scientific Calculator was the world's first handheld scientific calculator and HP's first product that contained both integrated circuits and LEDs. It was

Technology is one of the major leaders in the change of our life style. Looking back over 80 years there are so many things which have changed, some for the better some for the worst. On one side technology has bought many advances which have improved life and on the other problems due to its misappropriation and misuse, often with criminal intent. New inventions are hailed as life changing but as time goes by the familiarity of them disappears and in time will be replaced.

so called as it had 35 keys. But it is fast being superseded by computers and other devices

### CREDIT CARDS



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As the credit card has gradually reduced the use of cash for purchases, now contactless by phone is fast replacing payment by cash and credit card. Cash has been in use for centuries but payment by credit cards truly entered the mainstream in 1960's when the Bank of America (eventually Visa) introduced the general-purpose credit card by licensing their brand to banks, The first contactless cards in the UK were issued by Barclaycard in September 2007. PayPass trailed the world's first NFC-enabled phone, the Nokia 6131 NFC, in New York in 2007. In March 2008, Eat became the first restaurant chain to adopt contactless. But like cash credit cards will be eventually replaced. Some blame these methods for people getting into financial problems. As with cash in the pocket one had physical knowledge of ones financial situation.

### CAMERA FILM



Sgroey, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons

The use of photographic film was pioneered by George Eastman, who started manufacturing paper film in 1885 before switching to celluloid in 1889. His first camera, which he called the

"Kodak," was first offered for sale in 1888. It was a very simple box camera with a fixed-focus lens and single shutter speed, which along with its relatively low price appealed to the average consumer. But now with the immediacy of the camera on the phone not only has the expense of developing and printing has gone but photographs and videos can be viewed within seconds of pressing the button on

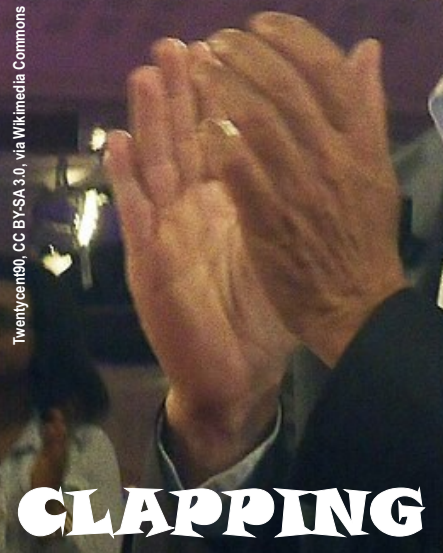
### TYPE WRITER



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The first commercial typewriters were introduced in 1874, but did not become common in offices until the beginning of the 1900's. It quickly became an indispensable tool for practically all written business correspondence. Typewriters were a standard fixture in most offices until the 1980s when they became displaced by word processors and computers. Typewriters are still used in some parts of the world where access to electric supply is limited or unreliable. The QWERTY keyboard has survived and become standard on

These are just a few items in danger of soon becoming obsolete but without them our technology could not have advanced to what it has become today? All our present technology will become superseded by newer technologies which will in time also become superseded, or many be co-exist with the newer alternatives if only for personal reasons. like a music box.



A form of universal language clapping, to show appreciation, seems to be limited to humans. Although other mammals clap it cannot be linked to the same reasoning. Historically no one knows when it became a common way to show appreciation but records state that in the 6th century BC, Athens lawmaker Kleisthènes encouraged audiences to clap in approval of their leader, as there were too many people for him to meet individually. This “applause”, became the unified voice of all the people present by together showing admiration and appreciation.

### RISE OF THE CLAQUER

In the 4th century BC came the claquer, a person hired by theatres and shows to clap, cry, or laugh at the right moments to influence the audience’s reactions. In Athens, competition was fierce between comedians, so claquers became a common way to sway the decision of the judges and be awarded best theatrical performance. In the Roman Empire, the practice of using applause to influence was applied to politics, and claquers were employed in courts of law and private art demonstrations.

### NERO’S APPLAUSE SCHOOL

Roman emperor Nero established a school of applause with a claque of thousands of knights and soldiers following him on his concert tours!

As an institution, the claque dates from performances at the theatre of Dionysus in ancient Athens. Philemon frequently defeated Menander in the 4th century BC in the comedy competitions, not by virtue of any superiority in his plays but because he swayed the decision of the judges by infiltrating the audience with claquers.

In the seventh century, Heracli-

us planned to meet with a barbarian king and wanted to intimidate his opponent as he knew his army, no longer intimidated the barbarians. So he hired a group of men to augment his legions to applaud.

Clapping history has a unique role in France and French venues as well. In 18th century France, the claque had a strong presence as an organised body of professional applauders and influencers. Continually used in theatres to influence audiences, the claquers were often paid by the production and actors of a play in free tickets. The whole affair was quite organised, with certain claquers assigned to laugh loudly during comedic portions, others to shed a tear for a melancholic performance, and even claquers designated to comment their appreciation of a play or speech to fellow audience-members!

### ACCLAMATION

Applause, in the ancient world, was not only acclamation, but also communication. It was, in its way, of demonstrating power. Applause, today, is much the same. In the studio, in the theatre, in places where people gather, we still smack our palms together to show our appreciation -- to create, in cavernous spaces, connection. "When we applaud a performer," argues the sociobiologist Desmond Morris, "we are, in effect, patting him on the back from a distance." We applaud dutifully and politely. We applaud, in the best of circumstances, enthusiastically. We applaud, in the worst, ironically.

### NON VOCAL GESTURE

Some have said that clapping is like high-fiving yourself in a positive response to something that someone else has done. Clapping is the most common sound that we, as humans, use without our vocal chords. We do it as a social gesture to show approval and admiration in groups, crowds, or by ourselves, and more so in the setting of being presented with something like a show or performance. But what is the reason behind why we clap? Did you know that the average speed of our claps ranges from 2.5-5 claps per second? The action of clapping is actually quite primitive, initially being used in response to being aroused. In Western etiquette, a study has

shown that the clap of an individual actually has very little to do with that individual’s personal opinion of the quality of the performance. It has more to do with the feeling of belonging in the group that someone has just experienced something with. Haven’t you ever heard someone say that they’re “just clapping to be polite”? Or when you applaud because everyone else is clapping, even if you’re not really sure what’s going on yourself?

### TOTALLY ANONYMOUS

In comparison to vocalising approval through speech, clapping is easier, louder, and more anonymous especially in crowds. You can’t tell much about a person through their clap. Whether they are male or female, or where they are from. Clapping is even considered more democratic, since stomping your feet can be disruptive. It is interesting to note as well that there are appropriate times and places for every applause. It is considered perfectly normal to applaud a politician as he takes the stage before he even gives a speech, as a sign of approval and in recognition of past accomplishments. In a religious setting, however, applauding is very rarely heard.

While, during a play it would be deemed rude to applaud in the middle of the performance, one often hears clapping throughout an opera in appreciation for a particularly difficult piece of music.

Applause can even evolve into higher gestures of approval, like standing ovation. It can be said that clapping has now evolved into an expectation and standard of behaviour. It’s no longer a biological or sociological reaction, like it was in primitive times. No longer used by private performance directors and political figures as a means to influence.

The act of applause and clapping along with other people following a performance of any kind, has become a social norm with a long list of historical influences.

### MODERN CLAQUERS

Interesting how what was once used as a political ploy is now the widespread means of demonstrating appreciation! Nevertheless we still find some traces, of the principle of claquers in television shows and radio programs, in the form of warm up acts and even pre recorded clapping and laughter.